

Application Serial No.: 09/173,134  
Amendment dated September 29, 2006  
Responsive to Board Decision dated July 31, 2006

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**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~multipurpose cage level barrier rodent cage assembly~~ for housing ~~a plurality of types of animals~~~~multiple species of rodents, including a plurality of mice or rats in a ventilated rack and cage system~~, the cage ~~assembly~~ comprising:

a cage bottom having a plurality of integral side walls, a floor and an open top end, said floor having a length  $l$  and a width  $w$  wherein

$80 \text{ square inches} \leq l \times w \leq 110 \text{ square inches}$ ; and

a feeder assembly constructed and arranged to adjust the height at which food

and/or fluids is available to an animal according to the species of the animal in the cage bottom.

2. (Original) The multipurpose rat cage of claim 1, wherein  $l \times w$  is substantially 80 square inches.

3. (Currently Amended) A cage level barrier cage ventilated rack and cage system for housing a plurality of types of rodents including a plurality of mice or rats within a cage, the system comprising a double sided rack, the rack having a depth;

at least one cage disposed in said rack, said cage having a cage bottom, the cage

bottom having a plurality of integral side walls, a floor and an open top,

and the length of the cage being less than substantially 18 inches; the cage

further comprising a feeder assembly constructed and arranged to adjust

the height at which food and/or fluids is available to an animal according

to the species of the animal in the cage bottom.

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Claims 4-7 (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) A cage level barrier cage ventilated rack and cage system for housing a plurality of types of rodents including a plurality of mice or rats within a cage, the system comprising:

a double sided rack, the rack having a depth; and  
a cage disposed in said rack, said cage having a cage bottom, the cage bottom having a plurality of integral side walls, a floor and an open top, and the length of the cage being less than substantially 18 inches;  
wherein said cage bottom has a length l and a width w, and wherein  $80 \text{ square inches} \leq l \times w \leq 110 \text{ square inches}$ ; the cage further comprising a feeder assembly constructed and arranged to adjust the height at which food and/or fluids is available to an animal according to the species of the animal in the cage bottom.

9. (Currently Amended) A cage level barrier cage ventilated rack and cage system for housing a plurality of types of rodents including a plurality of mice or rats within a cage, the system comprising:

a double sided rack, the rack having a depth; and  
a cage disposed in said rack, said cage having a cage bottom, the cage bottom having a plurality of integral side walls, a floor and an open top, and the length of the cage being less than substantially 18 inches, the cage further comprising a feeder assembly constructed and arranged to adjust

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the height at which food and/or fluids is available to an animal according  
to the species of the animal in the cage bottom;

wherein said rack has a depth and said cage rests within said rack so that said length of said cage at least partially overlaps said depth of said rack and a portion of said cage extends beyond said rack, the portion having a length and the sum of the length of the portion and the depth of said rack is less than or equal to substantially 36 inches.

10. (New) The cage assembly of claim 1, wherein the feeder comprises one or more selectively attachable components for adjusting the height of the feeder.

11. (New) A cage assembly for housing a plurality of sizes of animals, the cage assembly comprising:

a feeder assembly; and

a cage bottom for housing an animal, the cage bottom being constructed and arranged to receive feeder assemblies of different heights;

the cage bottom and feeder assembly working together to provide food and water to animals of different sizes.

12. (New) The cage assembly of claim 11, wherein the feeder assembly comprises:

a frame;

at least one support descending from said frame; and

a pair of flanges extending from said frame to support said frame within said cage, said at least one support has an open lower end and further comprising a snap on bottom, said snap bottom being selectively connected to said lower end of said at least one support.

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13. (New) The cage assembly of claim 1, wherein the feeder assembly comprises:  
a frame;  
at least one support descending from said frame; and  
a pair of flanges extending from said frame to support said frame within said cage, said at least one support has an open lower end and further comprising a snap on bottom, said snap bottom being selectively connected to said lower end of said at least one support.
14. (New) The cage assembly of claim 13, wherein said snap on bottom has an upper lip extending there around, and having a channel extending around said lower end, said upper lip receiving said channel to connect said snap on bottom to said at least one support.
15. (New) The cage assembly of claim 14, wherein said upper lip has a recess and said lower end has a tab, being received by said recess for locking said snap on bottom to said at least one support.
16. (New) The cage assembly of claim 13, wherein said snap on bottom is a food container.
17. (New) The cage assembly of claim 13, wherein said snap on bottom is a water bottle support.
18. (New) The cage assembly of claim 13, wherein said snap-on bottom has an opening therein.
19. (New) The cage assembly of claim 13, wherein said snap on bottom forms a flush surface with said at least one support.